

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 01352 280906Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 TRSE-00 H-01 SP-02
SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PRS-01 OMB-01 /073 W
-----281034 070207 /17

R 280754Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1964
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USDOC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1352

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, XF
SUBJECT: BOYCOTT DEVELOPMENTS; POSSIBLE DISCRIMINATION IN
FAVOR OF U.S. FIRMS

REF: DAMASCUS 631 (NOTAL)

1. U.K. EMBASSY/DAMASCUS RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM FCO REGARDING
23 FEBRUARY FINANCIAL TIMES REPORT THAT ARAB LEAGUE BOYCOTT
OFFICE HAS OBTAINED NEAR UNANIMOUS CONCURRENCE (WITH ONLY
IRAQ DISSENTING) "EXEMPT U.S. FIRMS FROM BOYCOTT REQUIREMENTS
OTHER THAN POSITIVE CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN. "UNDERSTANDABLY
AGITATED BRITISH COMMERCIAL OFFICER NOW SEEKING OUT EVIDENCE
CENTRAL BOYCOTT OFFICE DISCRIMINATING IN FAVOR AMERICAN
FIRMS.

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PAGE 02 DAMASC 01352 280906Z

2. FINANCIAL TIMES STORY SOUNDS SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE INACCURATE
AMALGAM RECENT REPORTING FROM THIS POST AND INFORMATION
WE HAVE BEEN HEARING BUT HAD NOT YET REPORTED. REFTTEL
DESCRIBES POLL OF ARAB LEAGUE MEMBERS REGARDING PROPOSAL
TO BOYCOTT GM FOR SELLING MARINE DIESELS TO ISRAEL
AND SUPPLYING RCA CASSETTES IN CADILLACS. ONLY IRAQ

FAILED TO CONCUR WITH BOYCOTT OFFICE RECOMMENDATION
WITHDRAW CHARGES AGAINST GM. IN UNRELATED DEVELOPMENT,
KNOWLEDGEABLE SYRIAN BUSINESSMEN HAVE TOLD ECONOFF
THAT CENTRAL BOYCOTT OFFICE HAS PASSED THE WORD TO
NATIONAL OFFICES AVOID ANY CONFRONTATIONS OR UNPLEASANT
PUBLICITY IN DEALYING WITH AMERICAN COMPANIES. ACCORDING
TO SOURCE, CENTRAL BOYCOTT OFFICE HAS ARGUED U.S.
FIRMS ARE "INNOCENT VICTIMS OF THEIR GOVT." BOYCOTT
OFFICE WILL SEEK CONFRONTATION WITH USG ON GROUNDS
AND TIMING OF ITS OWN CHOOSING AND IS POLLING ARAB
LEAGUE MEMBERS TO DRAW UP JOINT POSITION. WE HAVE
NO CONCRETE EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THIS REPORT.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY OTHER POSTS' INFORMATION ON
THESE REPORTS.

MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISCRIMINATION, BOYCOTTS, BUSINESS FIRMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ETRD, XF, IS, US
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